

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 05896 210207Z

ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-03 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /024 W

-----210213Z 035773 /62

P 200838Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8663

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E O 11652: NA

TAGS: BEXP, RP

SUBJ: CODEL WOLFF: AMCHAM BREAKFAST BRIEFING

REF: MANILA 5857

1. AT AMCHAM DIRECTORS' (SEVEN OF THEM) BREAKFAST BRIEFING FOR CONGRESSMAN WOLFF ON APRIL 19, IN WHICH AMBASSADOR AND DEPUTY ASST. SECRETARY ERLAND HEGINBOTHAM ALSO PARTICIPATED, ACTING AMCHAM PRESIDENT BILL DUNNING OF CALTEX RAISED TAX DEFERRAL AND SECTION 911. DUNNING STRESSED THAT AMCHAM SUPPORTS GOP AND ASEAN APPROACHES TO USG ON TAX DEFERRAL, THE ABOLITION OF WHICH WOULD INHIBIT U.S. INVESTMENT AND/OR EXPANSION. PRINCIPAL AMCHAM CONCERN WAS, OF COURSE, SECTION 911 ON WHICH OTHER DIRECTORS, PARTICULARLY LEW BURRIDGE OF APCAC, ALSO SPOKE TO EFFECT THAT IT WOULD MAKE U.S. COMPANIES NON-COMPETITIVE VIS-A-VIS THE JAPANESE AND GERMANS. AMCHAM DIRECTORS ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER ATTACKS ON THE MULTINATIONALS, INCLUDING THE PROPOSED ECOSOC CODE OF CONDUCT.

2. WOLFF AGREED THAT THE MULTINATIONALS WERE NEEDED TO COMPETE AGAINST THE JAPANESE AND EUROPEAN CARTELS, AND THE REAL PROBLEM WAS TO CLEAN UP NMHE MARKET ITSELF RATHER THAN THE MULTINATIONALS (READ, THE U.S. IUMPPANIES). YF STRESSZK CEAT HE Lzs PCFAVOR OF FREE TRADE BECAUSE OF THE GROWING INTERDEPENDENCE OF THE WORLD, BUT ALSO

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PAGE 02 MANILA 05896 210207Z

POINTED OUT THE PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT AT HOME. EACH PERCENTAGE OF UNEMPLOYMENT COSTS THE U.S. \$50 TO \$70 BILLION IN GNP. A CONGRESSMAN HAD TO REPRESENT HIS CONSTITUENTS, INCLUDING TEXTILE WORKERS AND SHOEMAKERS, AND HE THEREFORE UNDERSTOOD WHY SOME OF HIS COLLEAGUES IN THE HOUSE ARE FOR TRADE RESTRICTIONS.

3. ON SECTION 911, WOLFF WAS SYMPATHETIC AND ADVISED THE AMCHAM MEMBERS TO WRITE THEIR CONGRESSMEN AND WHENEVER THEY ARE IN THE UNITED STATES TO CALL ON THEM PERSONALLY. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THEY HAD TO WRITE REGULARLY AND TO GET THEIR RELATIVES IN THE UNITED STATES ALSO TO DO SO. HE SAID THEY SHOULD NOT IGNORE THE CONGRESSIONAL STAFF (WHO ARE INFLUENTIAL) OR EVEN A "LIBERAL DEMOCRAT LIKE ME", OFFERING TO MEET WITH THE AMCHAM MEMBERS IF THEY LOOK HIM UP IN WASHINGTON. HEGINBOTHAM ADDED THAT THE AMCHAM REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD ALSO TALK TO TREASURY AND OMB OFFICIALS AS WELL AS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

4. THE SESSION WENT OFF QUITE WELL, AND THE U.S. BUSINESSMEN APPRECIATED THE OPPORTUNITY OF DISCUSSING THEIR PROBLEMS FOR TWO HOURS WITH A VISITING SENIOR CONGRESSMAN. THIS CABLE HAS NOT BEEN CLEARED WITH REP. WOLFF.

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Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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TAGS: BEXP, RP
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